

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A work management system in which a management apparatus is connected to a plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones, said management apparatus comprising:

a settled shift table sending unit which distributes a settled shift table in which work schedules of employees are settled to corresponding ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones;

a recruiting information generation unit which, in a case in which cancellation information requesting cancellation of the work schedule is sent from a ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone to which the settled shift table has been sent, generates additional recruiting information for recruiting a new employee;

a recruiting information sending unit which sends the additional recruiting information generated by said recruiting information generation unit to the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones which are specified as sending destinations for urgent recruiting; and

an application information reception unit which receives application information sent from arbitrary ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones in response to the additional recruiting information sent by said recruiting information sending unit,

wherein

the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones to which the settled shift table may be distributed comprise:

a reception unit which receives the settled shift table distributed from said management apparatus, and

a sending unit which sends the cancellation information for canceling the work schedule indicated in the settled shift table received by said reception unit to said management apparatus; and
the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones to which the additional recruiting information may be sent comprise:

a reception unit which receives the additional recruiting information sent from said management apparatus, and

a sending unit which sends [[the]] application information for applying for the additional recruiting information received by said reception unit to said management apparatus.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A work management system in which a management apparatus is connected to a plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones, said work management apparatus comprising:

a recruiting information generation unit which, in a case in which staff vacancies arise amounting to a predetermined number of employees in a settled shift table in which work schedules of employees are settled, sets a number of employees to be recruited and an additional recruiting period to generate additional recruiting information for recruiting new employees;

a recruiting information sending unit which sends the additional recruiting information generated by said recruiting information generation unit to the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones of employees who can apply to fill the vacancies;

an application information reception unit which receives application information sent from arbitrary ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones in response to the additional recruiting information sent by said recruiting information sending unit; and

a recruiting processing unit which, in a case in which a number of applicants based on the application information received by said application information reception unit does not reach the number of employees to be recruited, sends a notification information to a person in charge, and executes an urgent-shift making routine,

wherein the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones to which the additional recruiting information may be sent comprise:

a reception unit which receives the additional recruiting information sent from said management apparatus, and

a sending unit which sends the application information for applying for the additional recruiting information received by said reception unit to said management apparatus.

Claim 37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A work management apparatus for generating a shift table indicating times in which employees are scheduled to work, comprising:

a file memory which stores an employee information file retaining employee information on employees, and work management file retaining management information for setting work contents of said employees;

a temporary shift table generation unit which generates a temporary shift table in which scheduled work times of employees are temporarily set, based on the employee information and the management information;

a temporary shift table sending unit which sends the temporary shift table generated by said temporary shift table generation unit to a plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones over a network;

a response information reception unit which receives, over the network, response information sent from said plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones in response to the temporary shift table sent by said temporary shift table sending unit;

a settled shift table generation unit which generates a settled shift table in which schedule work times of employees are settled based on the response information received by said response information reception unit; and

a settled shift table sending unit which automatically sends the settled shift table generated by said settled shift table generation unit to said plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones over the network.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The work management apparatus according to claim 38, wherein:

in a case in which there is a shortage of employees available when generating a temporary shift table due to cancellation of work schedules, said temporary shift table generation unit generates a temporary shift table to which recruiting information for recruiting a required number of employees to fill the shortage is added;

said temporary shift table sending unit sends the temporary shift table to which the recruiting information is added to ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones which are specified as sending destinations for ~~urgent~~ recruiting as urgent to make up for employees who canceled; and

in a case in which the response information is information representing application for the recruiting information added to the temporary shift table, said settled shift table generation unit generates a settled shift table in which the applying employees are assigned as employees to fill the shortage.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The work management apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising:

a cancellation information reception unit which, in a case in which cancellation information requesting cancellation of a work schedule is sent from an arbitrary ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone among ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones to which said settled shift table sending unit has sent the settled shift table, receives the cancellation information over the network;

a recruiting information generation unit which, in a case in which said cancellation information reception unit receives the cancellation information, generates recruiting information for recruiting a new employee in response to the received cancellation information;

a recruiting information sending unit which sends the recruiting information generated by said recruiting information generation unit to the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones which are specified as sending destinations for ~~urgent-recruiting~~ as urgent to make up for an employee who canceled over the network; and

an application information reception unit which receives, over the network, application information sent from an arbitrary ~~portable-terminal~~ mobile telephone in response to the recruiting information sent by said recruiting information sending unit,

wherein:

said settled shift table generation unit updates the settled shift table in accordance with the application information received by said application information reception unit; and

said settled shift table sending unit sends the settled shift table updated by said settled shift table generation unit to the ~~portable-terminal~~ mobile telephone having sent the application information.

Claim 41 (Previously Presented): The work management apparatus according to claim 38, further comprising:

a display unit which displays a setting screen from which maintenance of the employee information and the management information is performed; and

an input unit which acquires information input from the setting screen displayed on said display unit;

wherein said file memory registers/updates the employee information in the employee information file and the management information in the work management file in accordance with the information acquired by said input unit.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): A work management method for a work management apparatus comprising a memory storing employee information on employees and work management information for setting work contents of the employees a communication unit for transmitting and receiving information over a network, between a plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones, and a processing unit for controlling said memory and said communication unit, said method comprising:

a temporary shift table generating step of generating, by said processing unit, a temporary shift table in which work schedules of employees are temporarily set based on the employee information and the management information stored in said memory;

a temporary shift table sending step of controlling, by said processing unit, said communication unit to send the temporary shift table generated in said temporary shift table generating step to each ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone over the network;

a response information receiving step of controlling, by said processing unit, said communication unit to receive, over the network, response information sent from each

~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone in response to the temporary shift table sent in said temporary shift table sending step;

a settled shift table generating step of generating, by said processing unit, a settled shift table in which work schedule of employees are settled, in accordance with the response information received in said response information receiving step; and

a settled shift table sending step of controlling, by said processing unit, said communication unit to send the settled shift table generated in said settled shift table generating step to each ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone over the network.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): The work management method according to claim 42, wherein:

in a case in which there is a shortage of employees available due to cancellation of work schedules in a case in which a temporary shift table is to be generated, a temporary shift table to which recruiting information for recruiting a required number of employees to fill the shortage is added is generated in said temporary shift table generating step;

the temporary shift table to which the recruiting information is added is sent to ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones which are specified as sending destinations for ~~urgent recruiting~~ as urgent to make up for employees who canceled, in said temporary shift table sending step; and

in a case in which the response information is information representing application for the recruiting information added to the temporary shift table, a settled shift table in which the applying employees are assigned as employees to fill the shortage is generated in said settled shift table generating step.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): The work management method according to claim 42, further comprising:

a cancellation information receiving step of, in a case in which cancellation information requesting cancellation of a work schedule is sent from an arbitrary ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone among ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones to which the settled shift table has been sent in said settled shift table sending step, controlling, by said processing unit, said communication unit to receive the cancellation information over the network;

a recruiting information generating step of, in a case in which cancellation information is received in said cancellation information receiving step, generating, by said processing unit, recruiting information for recruiting a new employee in response to the received cancellation information;

a recruiting information sending step of controlling, by said processing unit, said communication unit to send the recruiting information generated in said recruiting information generating step to the ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones which are specified as sending destinations for ~~urgent~~ recruiting as urgent to make up for an employee who canceled; and

an application information receiving step of receiving, over the network, application information sent from an arbitrary ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone in response to the recruiting information sent in said recruiting information sending step,

wherein:

in said settled shift table generating step, the settled shift table is updated in accordance with the application information received in said application information receiving step, and

in said settled shift table sending step, the settled shift table updated in said settled shift table generating step is sent to the ~~portable terminal~~ mobile telephone having sent the application information.

Claim 45 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for controlling a computer to function as:

a file memory which stores an employee information file retaining employee information on employees, and work management file retaining management information for setting work contents of said employees;

a temporary shift table generation unit which generates a temporary shift table in which scheduled work times of employees are temporarily set based on the employee information and the management information;

a temporary shift table sending unit which sends the temporary shift table generated by said temporary shift table generation unit to a plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones over a network;

a response information reception unit which receives, over the network, response information sent from the plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones in response to the temporary shift table sent by said temporary shift table sending unit;

a settled shift table generation unit which generates a settled shift table in which scheduled work times of employees are settled, in accordance with the response information received by said response information reception unit; and

a settled shift table sending unit which automatically sends the settled shift table generated by said settled shift table generation unit to the plurality of ~~portable terminals~~ mobile telephones over the network.